GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1758
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
COMPUTERISATION OF INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken a Programme of Comprehensive Computerisation of Income Tax Operations in 1994-95 but the same has not yet been fully achieved;

(b) if so, whether the Income-tax authorities have been under utilising the funds ranging from Rs.5 lakhs to Rs.18.28 crores;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to enquire into the matter and fix the accountability and responsibility of the person concerned and to take action against them apart from expediting the networking; and

(d) if so, the system adopted propose to be adopted in the purchase of computers and its software?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a): Yes Sir, Comprehensive Computerisation plan for Income-tax Department is being implemented in a phased manner since 1994-95. The first and second phases covering Delhi, Mumbai Chennai and 57 other cities have since been completed. Formal expenditure sanction of the Cabinet is awaited for the remaining Income Tax offices in 418 cities / towns to be covered in the third phase.

(b): Yes Sir, it is true that there has been under utilization of funds. But this has been due to various unavoidable factors, such as, non-submission of bills / supporting documents for release of payment, delay in technical/commercial evaluation of some of the tenders.

(c): No Sir, in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d): The Technical evaluation of Tenders regarding procurement of various items of hardware, software, networking, etc. is done by the Technical Sub Committee (TSC) which assists, guides and monitors technologicalaspects of computerization in the Income Tax Department. The commercial evaluation of Tenders is finalized by the Technical Evaluation and Procurement Committee (TEPC) comprising of Officers of Department, Financial Advisor(Finance) and Senior Technical Officers from Ministry ofCommunications & Information Technology, and Department of Space.